

REMARKS

The claim amendments presented above supplement the applicants' response of March 3, 2008 and follow most helpful telephone discussions with Examiner Edwards on April 14, 2008 and April 21, 2008.

In this regard, as was helpfully noted by the Examiner, the molar ratios of claim 18 have now been amended so as to be commensurate with the expressions in claim 1.

As was noted during the telephone discussions, the present invention as defined by the pending claims is patentable in several respects. For example, the subject matter of the pending claims is novel over USP 6,379,814 to Dupre (corresponding to US Published Application 2002/0054994) in that a melamine-containing resin composition is used in at least a face layer and such composition satisfies the molar criteria as provided in the pending claims. In addition, the pending claims herein are patentably unobvious over Dupre et al since there is no hint therein of using melamine in the amounts claimed. In fact, Dupre et al teach away from such subject matter at column 1, lines 29-37 (paragraph [0005] in the corresponding published application).

Therefore, applicants suggest that all pending claims herein are in condition for allowance.

Every effort has been made to advance prosecution of this application to allowance. Therefore, in view of the amendments and remarks above, applicant suggests that all claims are in condition for allowance and Official Notice of the same is solicited.

Should any small matters remain outstanding, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the Applicants' undersigned attorney so that the same may be resolved without the need for an additional written action and reply.

EVERS et al
Serial No. 10/561,942
April 21, 2008

An early and favorable reply on the merits is awaited.

Fee Authorization

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140.

Respectfully submitted,

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